

A SHAMEFUL SURRENDER.

THE FISHERIES TREATY ANALYZED BY SENATOR FRYE.

A REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICAN IDEAS SPEAKS IN BEHALF OF THE YANKEE FISHERMEN—THE FISHERIES QUESTION IN THE LIGHT OF HISTORY—A REPLY TO COMMIS-SIONERS AND DIPLOMATS.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—It there still left within them a spark of patriotic pride, or if they be animated merely by an ordinary sense of justice, the blood of Democratic Senators must have tinged as they listened to the recital by Senator Frye to-day of the brutal course pursued by Canada in its treatment of Yankee fishermen and the pusillanimous attitude of the Administration and the wretched surrender to British demands by Secretary Bayard of American rights and privileges. The Fisheries Treaty had at last been taken up for consideration by the Senate in open session. In anticipation of a lively debate the galleries were crowded, notwithstanding the oppressive heat. After an ineffectual attempt on the part of Mr. Morgan to stave off consideration of the treaty by moving its postponement until December next, Mr. Frye obtained the floor. He has the advantage of a strong voice and earnest delivery. It is impossible to deny his sincerity. He is fully conversant, moreover, with all the facts bearing on the case.

His historical knowledge of the controversy, which extends over a hundred years, is exhaustive. He has all the statistics and figures at his finger's ends. To-day he was at his best.

EXPONING THE CAUSE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Nothing finer, nothing more impressive, nothing appealing more strikingly to the patriotic feelings of his audience, could be imagined than his introductory remarks in which he paid to Great Britain the tribute she justly deserves, of taking care of the meanness of her subjects in the furthest country of the globe, at whatever cost or at whatever sacrifice called for.

The galleries broke out in loud applause once or twice when Senator Payne attempted in a driving way to defend Mr. Bayard's shameful surrender and Mr. Frye denounced the Ohio Senator for espousing the cause of Great Britain. Throughout, Mr. Frye laid great stress upon the fact that this was not, as some patriotic statesmen from the South seem to think, a local issue merely, a wrong done to a few fishermen, but a question of National importance, spelled with a big "N."

Messrs. Morgan and Gray, who seem to have been selected by Administration to do its dirty work in the Senate, sought to belittle this as much as they could, but not with a great deal of success. Their manner of defending Mr. Bayard, as if they had been asked to do so, was contemptible. In strong and almost disgusting contrast to the earnestness with which Mr. Frye pleaded the case of the fishermen.

Before adjourning, Mr. Frye said that he would on June 11, to allow some Democratic statesmen who wish to attend the ratification meeting in St. Louis to go away without losing any of the debate.

HAVE YANKEE FISHERMEN NO RIGHTS?

Mr. Frye, in opening his speech, declared that this powerful Republic had utterly neglected the rights of the fishermen. When the war of Independence was over we met to frame a treaty of peace, and Great Britain accorded us the right of fishing on the Grand Banks and other banks over which she had no more control than over the mid-ocean. Again victorious in the war of 1812, we met to make a treaty of peace. Great Britain said: "You have forfeited every right that you ever had in these northeastern waters." We had men then, patriotic and courageous men, who said to Great Britain emphatically: "You put that into the treaty of peace and we never will make peace with you." That treaty was entirely silent as to this fishing right. The treaty of 1812 was negotiated when we were struggling under the yoke of the war of 1812, and when Great Britain had just conquered at Waterloo. We made a dishonorable surrender of our rights, but we did have enough courage to insist that if our fishermen were driven by stress of weather, into any of those desolate and uncharted waters, they should be sheltered. The United States grew in power, population and importance. Great Britain and Canada looked at our markets with envious eyes and determined to possess them. And so Canada began by every conceivable outrage, wrong and injustice to drive our vessels away, to seize upon our fishermen, to capture the treaty of 1812, and we were permitted to fish within their waters and they within our waters, with free entry to our markets for their fish. Mr. Frye traced the course of the lawless and unscrupulous trade from the day of the signing of the right of entry of the Canadian fish free of duty.

He then outlined the course of the diplomacy in connection with the Fisheries Treaty of 1854. Following the treaty of 1854, but after paying \$5,000,000 to Great Britain, she refused to abrogate the treaty. Finally the time came for the President to give notice that in 1855 we had no treaty except that of 1850.

MR. BAYARD'S DIPLOMATIC CRAZE.

Secretary Bayard had an itching palm for diplomacy. He was profoundly ignorant of the fishery matter. But Sir Lionel West persuaded Secretary Bayard that there would be conflicts between the fishermen of the United States and the fishermen of Canada that might lead to war with Great Britain. Mr. Bayard said: "What do I care? I do not want anything that you say," and he granted the modus vivendi without any right to under the Constitution. The President signed his message to Congress and Mr. Frye declared it to be the sense of the Senate that the United States wanted no fishery commission to settle our rights. The resolution was adopted. In the following year, after half 120 American vessels were seized under every conceivable pretext, they were driven to sea in storms; refused hospitalities; they were treated as pirates. Mr. Manning, declared the treatment to be brutal. Mr. Frye cited in illustration several cases of a number of American vessels that had been seized and driven to sea under circumstances, referring to the act of last Congress giving the President the power to resort to retaliatory measures.

Mr. Frye then said that the President should notify Canada that if American vessels were not admitted into Canadian ports, Canadian vessels would not be admitted into American.

UNBOLD AND DISGRACEFUL SURRENDER.

Mr. Frye referred sarcastically to the meetings of the plenipotentiaries at Washington; their rooms filled with costly orchids; themselves living like princes, and having much elegant leisure on their hands, and "What was the result?" (he asked). "Here it is," said he, holding up a copy of the treaty. "The mountain labored; there is the mouse. All that I have to say is, the treaty is the result of a shameful and disgraceful surrender which the American Republic has ever made in its whole history, not excepting the Treaty of 1812." He then read the 12th article of the treaty, which related to the limitation of the number of fishing vessels. He had asked for limitation. Who had complained that the fishermen could not sell where the thrumline shore line was? He was aware that Great Britain had declared that the bays of the Northeast were to be measured from headland to headland, and that this included all the great bays of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the whole of them. But he was equally aware that not six months after, Great Britain instructed the Colonial officers not to enforce the thrumline shore line. He was aware that the United States had been forced in two instances—those of the Argus and Washington, which had been seized in 1845 in the Bay of Fundy, fishing outside the thrumline shore line. He was aware that the United States claimed that these seizures were illegal, the matter was referred to arbitration, by which it was determined that the claim of Great Britain was not sustained by law or by treaty.

To an interruption by Mr. Beck, Mr. Frye replied that if Great Britain contended that she owned the United States of America, he suggested that the United States should be asked to return to Kentucky to settle the difficulty.

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Mr. Frye—if you yield everything, and the other nation yields nothing, does it not seem to you that the result is a complete surrender, some time or other, stand for the right.

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